

Washington State Patrol Media Release

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*****For Immediate Release*****

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WSP Trooper Initiates Snoqualmie Pass Rescue From Florida

A King County State Trooper on vacation this afternoon in Florida received a frantic call from a friend of the family on his cellular phone. The caller, a 24-year-old Tacoma woman advised the trooper that she and a friend were stranded on the side of a mountain in a dangerous location approximately 15 miles from interstate 90, from the summit of the Snoqualmie Pass.

The woman and her friend, a 36-year-old Tacoma man had been hunting in the mountains and became disabled when they tried to drive off the roadway and broke through the snow damaging the truck they were driving. The woman and the man had been stuck in this spot for 24 hours and could not get out.

The woman was able to get out on her cell phone because of the altitude on the mountain and claimed that it had been snowing hard enough that they couldn't walk out. The WSP trooper on vacation in Florida relayed the information to the Washington State Patrol Communication Center in Bellevue. Authorities were able to locate the woman's position from her cell phone and rescue efforts are under way at this time. The King County Sherriff's Office is the investigating agency and are coordinating all rescue efforts.

"This once again illustrates the need to be fully prepared when driving in the mountain areas during the winter months" stated Trooper Jeff Merrill with the Washington State Patrol.

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